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4. The carrier system of claim 2 wherein said second set of equipment mounting hardware includes:

bicycle mounting hardware.

5. The carrier system of claim 2 wherein said second set of equipment mounting hardware includes:

at least one channel member mounted transversely on said spine member; and
bicycle mounting hardware attached to said at least one channel member.

6. The carrier system of claim 2 wherein said carrier system includes:
said first set of equipment mounting hardware includes a cargo platform; and said
second set of equipment mounting hardware includes at least one channel member mounted
onto said cargo platform.

7. A carrier system for transporting equipment, said carrier system comprising:
a spine member removably engageable in a hitch receiver of a vehicle;
a securing member for securing said spine member to said hitch receiver;
a cargo platform;
an attachment mechanism for removably securing said cargo platform directly to said
spine member;
bicycle mounting hardware; and
a second attachment mechanism for removably securing said bicycle mounting
hardware directly to said spine member with said cargo platform removed.

8. The carrier system of claim 7 wherein said bicycle mounting hardware includes:
at least one channel member transversely mounted onto said spine member.

9. A carrier system for transporting equipment, said carrier system comprising:
a spine member removably engageable in a hitch receiver of a vehicle;
a securing member for securing said spine member to said hitch receiver;